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EPISTLE

FROM THE

YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS,

HELD IN

PHILADELPHIA,

BY ADJOURNMENTS, FROM THE EIGHTH DAY OF THE FOURTH
MONTH, TO THE TWELFTH OF THE SAME,
INCLUSIVE, 1833.

TO FRIENDS

ON THE

CONTINENT OF AMERICA,

FEB 7 1935

FROM OUR
YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS,
HELD IN
PHILADELPHIA,

By adjournments, from the eighth day of the Fourth month,
to the twelfth of the same, inclusive, 1833,

*To our Friends, brethren and sisters, scattered abroad, whether
on the American Continent, or elsewhere.*

DEAR FRIENDS,

In the renewed extension of Divine love to us in
this our annual assembly, we have been baptized into
deep sympathy with our dear brethren and sisters
living in remote situations, and with those, who, from
other circumstances, may be deprived of the comfort
and benefit of religious society. In the fresh feelings

; and, by ~~influence~~ —
good report and evil report, in p
lation, as deceivers and yet true,
old up to the world the standar
teousness, and to preach with
f Christ in his inward and spiri

to this Principle, dear friends, that
, concerned to recommend you
apostle, that as the eye is kept si
light, it is able, in the most tryi
and under the privation of all ou
d you up, and give you an inheriti
which are sanctified."

believe there never was a time w

the influence of this Divine “anointing” they approached the Lord in prayer, and opened their mouths in the ministry, and, like the “scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven,” were enabled to “bring forth out of their treasure things new and old.”

Many are the inventions, and plausible the schemes of interested men, to draw away the minds of the unwary from the simplicity of the truth—to divert them from the inward operation of the powerful WORD OF LIFE, to outward views and speculative opinions, leading into doubtful disputation and strife, and tending to settle them in a dry and lifeless profession of religion. By recurrence to this Divine gift, and steadily abiding under its power, the eye will be opened to discern the workings of the selfish principle in all its transformations ; to detect that insidious spirit which has gone abroad in the earth, to deceive, if possible,

not only escape the vanities and corruptions of the world, but be qualified to stand as pillars of strength in the house. And, dear children, although you are not yet qualified to stand under his cross, yet be assured by your experience, that for every sacrifice you make in the cause of this heavenly Teacher, he will amply reward you with accessions of power over your souls' destinies, an increase of Divine life and light, and to your own unspeakable consolation.

The Society of Friends has always been considered as an indispensable duty, the public welfare of the world; and where a just sense of our obligations to our fellow creatures, and to the infinite love and goodness prevails, this duty will be deemed a great privilege. We know

only to individuals and families, but to whole neighborhoods, by the gathering of many into an acquaintance with the Principle of Truth. And we fervently desire, that Friends in lonely or secluded situations, though they be few in number, may be encouraged to support this our ancient testimony, and thus know the blessing of faithfulness, by reaping its heavenly fruits.

And, dear friends, while we are engaged to apply to the Divine Fountain for that water which springeth up unto everlasting life, let us in no wise neglect the means of improvement, which our Heavenly Father, in the plenitude of his love, has been pleased to afford us, amongst which is "the frequent reading of the holy scriptures." Of these invaluable records the apostle declares, that they are "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works;" and we are persuaded that none whose spiritual senses have been quickened and made alive unto God, can ever lightly esteem them, or the important doctrines which they inculcate.

Thus, beloved friends, as in our varied allotments, whether in solitary places, or in the busier scenes of life, we all keep our ranks in righteousness, we shall

garments, and in her an-
le judges as at the first, and coun-
i, as at the beginning."

a salutation of gospel love, we

*on behalf and by direction of the
Meeting, by*

JOHN COMLY

Clerk of the me.

LUCRETIA M[†]

Clerk of the wome

* Samuel Fothergill.





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epistle from the Yearly Meeting

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